




A factsheet on

PIQA

A Quality Assurance (QA) tool adapted for health promotion activities targeting people who inject drugs

This new tool is piloted as part of Quality Action.



Quality Action
Improving **HIV** Prevention in Europe



This work is part of the Joint Action on Improving Quality in HIV Prevention (Quality Action), which has received funding from the European Union within the framework of the Health Programme.



Quality Assurance (QA) refers to activities that ensure a minimum level of quality for an intervention by looking at available standards and how well they are met. QA measures and assesses the quality of the work against standards to ensure it is of high enough quality to reach its objectives. Based on the results of quality assurance, different kinds of action for improvement can be taken.

PIQA can be used for projects that are intended to prevent HIV, STI, Hepatitis, TB and other infections that are common among people who inject drugs/people who use drugs (PWID/PWUD). It can also be used for other health promotion projects targeting PWID/PWUD and for quality assurance of the health promotion aspects of other PWID/PWUD-focused projects.

PIQA can be used by those implementing the project, by project coordinators and by representatives from the target group who know about the project. **PIQA** is a self-assessment tool. It is most useful when a range of people are involved in the assessment process, including members of the project team, the target group and other key stakeholders in the project.

The tool contains an introduction to its use and clusters of questions on seven important areas that have been shown to be important for success in health promotion. The respondents assess to what extent the project has managed to fulfill requirements in these areas. Depending on the score, you might consider your project to be *strong*, *moderate* or *weak* in an area and then consider possible improvements.

The tool has been developed in close collaboration with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), looking specifically at health promotion and prevention targeting PWID. This new tool is based on the already existing Health Promotion Effect Management Instrument (Preffi), which is a QA tool for increasing the effectiveness of health promotion projects in general.